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12 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Summary of Office Comments on JIIRG

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The Offices have individually prepared comments on the draft JIIRG report. Representatives from COMOR, OSI, FMSAC, OSP, and [   ] and I met yesterday, and agreed on the following summary:

1.   The recommended action is exaggerated beyond the needs of the problem apparently because the JIIRG failed to appreciate some of the functions of the existing USIB committees.

    a.   COMOR now provides guidance on first and second phase readout priorities, and this guidance has been satisfactory to the USIB members and the imagery interpretation community.

    b.   GMAIC, JAEIC, and SIC, whose activities are supported by a significant portion of the PI effort, now provide a reasonable and satisfactory degree of third phase coordination in their areas of responsibility and, thereby, unwarranted duplication of imagery interpretation effort is precluded.

2 *Existing NSCID authorities are apply in ~~oot~~ several areas including:*

  ~~c~~ *d,* Better coordination in other areas and activities can readily be achieved by NPIC exercising authorities in accordance with the provisions of NCID No. 8. This task is simplified if DIA coordinates and controls Department of Defense imagery interpretation effort in fact as well as theory.

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/C d. JIIRG recommendations requesting the establishment and maintenance of certain files at NPIC for community use as a service of common concern (such as the operational data required for mensuration) are desirable, and could be initiated in the Washington area as part of the COINS effort.

a. Al, CIA imagery interpretation environment and needs are so different from tactical military needs that the standard PI competence criteria proposed by the JIIRG are believed infeasible.

2 b. NPIC R and D efforts should continue as presently organized. The JIIRG recommendation that NPIC be responsible for R and D for Washington area agencies is ill defined, and, further, the responses to the JIIRG questionnaire indicates that there are presently no unfulfilled R and D needs.

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/. d g. ☐ and ISCIG provide adequate technical coordination, and the recommendations of JIIRG to form a USIB sub-committee to effect this coordination is unjustified and unnecessary.

3 a. Although the JIIRG has made a substantial effort to define the various phases and types of imagery interpretation, the proposed National Tasking Plan is internally inconsistent, and the proposed delineation and assignment of tasks is obfuscated by this lack of definition. The cost advantages and operational advantages are not specific, and in view of the coordination now achieved by the existing USIB committees or achievably by NPIC, foreseeable gains appear trivial compared to the complications inherent in establishing the Plan. More importantly, if implemented, the National Tasking Plan would artificially fragment some currently integrated capabilities by the assignment of the responsibilities proposed; e.g. SSM, AAM, and nuclear storage site analysis would be split between NPIC, CIA, and a 2 DOD component.

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5. The basic data in the report appears to be reasonably accurate, and represents a useful summary, but in some instances the data has been misinterpreted, and the estimates of imagery interpretation needs, for example, do not appear to be realistic.

6. The individual office comments are attached.

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